



### PROJECT PARTICULARS

- ❑ \$38.6 million project awarded to Pulice Construction, Inc., June '01
- ❑ 2.4 miles of six lane freeway, passing beneath Union Hills Dr. and over the CAP Canal, with a multi-level freeway to freeway interchange linking SR 51 and the Loop 101 Pima Freeway
- ❑ Project time: 450 working days, beginning September 4, '01
- ❑ Total excavation for roadway and drainage systems: 2 million cubic yards

Loop 101 Pima Freeway traffic was shifted onto a construction by-pass late last year to allow work to advance on ramp bridges that will carry traffic to and from SR 51. The freeway-to-freeway interchange structures were built on earthen fill at Loop 101 cross-overs to speed construction and enhance safety. The fill is being removed, allowing traffic to be shifted to the Pima's permanent alignment by September (ABOVE). Concrete decks will be placed on northbound SR 51 mainline structures over the Central Arizona Project canal and its low flow channel by early August. Earthwork for storm water detention basins and embankment for elevated ramps at the interchange is virtually completed (BELOW). Paving for SR 51 is scheduled to begin late this year, with overall project completion expected by summer 2003.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

BELL ROAD TO PIMA FREEWAY TRAFFIC INTERCHANGE  
JULY 2002



The SR 51 corridor has been defined north from Bell Road.



SR 51 will be elevated as it crosses the CAP Canal to reach Loop 101.



SR 51 "mainline" bridges nearing completion at the Central Arizona Project canal and its low flow channel.



Major milestones for the \$36.8 million project to finish State Route 51 and complete its connections with Loop 101 are being met as the first year of work comes to a close. Remarkable progress is evident at the freeway-to-freeway interchange and work at the Union Hills Drive crossing is nearly finished. The freeway corridor is now totally defined following extensive earthwork, and sound barrier construction will be finished soon.

Pulice Construction is now focused on shifting Union Hills Drive traffic onto the new bridge over the corridor and on removing the construction by-pass that has carried Pima Freeway traffic around ramp bridge construction at the SR 51 / Loop 101 interchange. Both milestones will be met by September.

In mid-August, single lanes in each direction will be opened on the Union Hills bridge. The temporary configuration will allow work to continue on the structure,

including completion of median islands, installation of traffic signals for future traffic movements at the full-diamond interchange and finishing work on bridge barrier walls. A pedestrian walkway over Union Hills, on the east side of the new bridge, will also be built before the end of the project.

Preparations for the new freeway's roadbed, including pipe installation for storm drainage systems, will continue through fall. Concrete paving for the 2.4 mile final segment of SR 51 is scheduled to begin before the end of the year and continue into early 2003.

At the Loop 101 Pima Freeway interchange, earthen fill that has supported construction of ramp bridges to and from SR 51 is being removed and efforts to shift traffic back onto the permanent Pima Freeway alignment are rapidly advancing.

Overall completion of this important Regional Freeway System project is scheduled by summer 2003.